

Message

From: Opalski, Dan [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=8B5ED6410D934BF699A008A252791A55-OPALSKI, DAN]
Sent: 7/10/2019 3:16:02 PM
To: Mathew J Martinson [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=07993c0bb86d42e4806a6eae5184a611-Martinson,]
CC: Chung, Angela [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b3e49fcb1ad46f1bdb92ebb4936350-Chung, Angela]
Subject: RE: Regional Allotments for Tribal WIIN Grant to Assist Small and Disadvantaged Communities

Thanks. Definitely work in need of a clearer "home." I ended up not going to DC, so I am around today.

I see there is some duplication in forwarding by Angela and me. Some of that is probably "better to be safe" redundancy, but still a process/communication topic for us to discuss.

From: Mathew J Martinson
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2019 8:01 AM
To: Opalski, Dan <Opalski.Dan@epa.gov>
Cc: Chung, Angela <Chung.Angela@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Regional Allotments for Tribal WIIN Grant to Assist Small and Disadvantaged Communities

Dan,

I light of the other email you just sent on the WIIN funds, I thought I'd share this exchange. I'll boil it down, since you are traveling. Jenna Manheimer and Rick Green are exchanging thoughts on what to do about this new source of funding. I see this as a role definition opportunity (i.e. assignments should be made by the Section or Branch Chief). I'd approach that carefully, given that there's history.

Again, this is just for your awareness. As a starting point, I hope to visit with Joe Roberto for recent history and context.

Hope your travels went well.

~Mat

Mathew J. Martinson, P.E., BCEE
CAPT, USPHS
Branch Chief, Permitting, Drinking Water and Infrastructure Branch
U.S. EPA, Region 10
Phone: 206-553-6334 (Direct)

From: Mathew J Martinson
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2019 7:55 AM
To: Chung, Angela <Chung.Angela@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Regional Allotments for Tribal WIIN Grant to Assist Small and Disadvantaged Communities

Angela,

I'd like to visit about this and provide the team with some framework on moving forward. In my mind, Karen and I have to take a look at this and make an appropriate assignment of a lead. I'd also like to hear Joe's perspective before he leaves. I can elaborate more on my thinking in a conversation with you and Dan. For now, I am inclined to thank Rick for looping me in and let him know that I'll schedule a conversation with the team, and Joe or Karen depending on timing.

In the meantime, I'll dig into this myself to understand the parameters, scope and timelines. I'm happy to chat before I move forward.

Thanks,
Mat

Mathew J. Martinson, P.E., BCEE
CAPT, USPHS
Branch Chief, Permitting, Drinking Water and Infrastructure Branch
U.S. EPA, Region 10
Phone: 206-553-6334 (Direct)

From: Green, Richard
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2019 7:14 AM
To: Manheimer, Jenna <Manheimer.Jennifer@epa.gov>
Cc: Roberto, Joseph <Roberto.Joseph@epa.gov>; Burgess, Karen <Burgess.Karen@epa.gov>; Mathew J Martinson <martinson.mathew@epa.gov>; Chung, Angela <Chung.Angela@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Regional Allotments for Tribal WIIN Grant to Assist Small and Disadvantaged Communities

Jenna,

Hi. I'm happy to meet with you about this. But unfortunately, despite the fact that I'm listed as a placeholder on the national website as the R10 Tribal contact for these grants, I know very little about the mechanics of how the WIIN Section 2104 grants to tribal water systems are supposed to work. And the factsheet on the national website isn't much help at all – simply says that EPA is exploring opportunities to implement these (Tribal) grants through regional programs. ☹️

https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-03/documents/assistance_for_small_and_disadvantaged_communities_factsheet_508.pdf

Here's what I do know:

1. There's **no 45% match** requirement for tribal entities. That'll help.
2. Tribes are eligible to apply for this miniscule pot of funding (\$216,000 split between ANV and tribes in WA, ID and OR won't go very far) **as well as** the larger pot of funding that is going to each of the states for the same grant program. Case in point, Warm Springs. Oregon already indicated that they thought this grant program, not the DWSRF, would be the most realistic funding option to assist Warm Springs in resolving their drinking water issues, and by virtue of being a public/community water system in the state of Oregon, they're eligible.
3. **Management needs to identify a point of contact/grant or IA or contract wrangler for the Tribal portion of these grants.** To my knowledge that has not happened yet. Because of the type of work involved and the type of systems likely to receive assistance, the likeliest person in my opinion would be Dennis or Johnny.
4. **These are direct Federal grants, and thus all of the crosscutters and Federal requirements will apply to grant recipients.** So if they're used for construction activities, that could end up creating a lot of extra red tape for Tribal entities. One idea might be to use them for facility planning/Preliminary Engineering Report production, or other types of technical assistance, to avoid triggering a lot of those Federal requirements. If we choose to dole out this money for technical assistance, I think I recall Michelle indicating that the EFC could very well represent an efficient pass-thru entity for that assistance.
5. **The word is out already.** I've already received a few inquiries about this grant program, and have had to tell them that we're still getting our act together. I do like the idea of putting something in the Tribal newsletter. Perhaps once management identifies the Tribal Section 2104 grant point of contact you could put their contact information and a link to the national website in the newsletter.

Thanks.

Rick Green, Regional Coordinator
State Revolving Fund
Region 10 EPA
(206) 553-8504
green.richard@epa.gov
<https://www.epa.gov/dwsrf>
<https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf>

From: Manheimer, Jenna
Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2019 3:57 PM
To: Green, Richard <Green.Richard@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Regional Allotments for Tribal WIIN Grant to Assist Small and Disadvantaged Communities

Hi Rick,

Could we meet soon to discuss this funding? How is it being advertised to water systems? And how are they going to apply or how will we choose systems to receive it? Do you think we should notify PWSs that it is available in our July quarterly letter?

Funding infrastructure to address MCLs can get pricey, and IHS is usually able to cover this through TSA and other pots, though they take at least two years from project proposal to completion. We have a small water system in Yakama with high DBPs that does not have money to fix the issue (we did a TA visit there last year and gave them several options, most of which involve some cost). Nooksack also has a nitrate MCL and is not going through IHS to fund their treatment; perhaps they could tap into this if they have not already found funding?

I might take off next week but will let you know. We are aiming to send out the quarterly letter around July 24th.

Thank you.

Jenna Manheimer
Tribal Drinking Water Coordinator
EPA Region 10
206-553-1189

From: Temple, Leslie
Sent: Monday, July 8, 2019 12:21 PM
To: DI Network <DI_Network@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Regional Allotments for Tribal WIIN Grant to Assist Small and Disadvantaged Communities

Hi all,

Please find the regional allotments for the new tribal grant program, Assistance for Small and Disadvantaged Communities Tribal Grant, attached. Additional information about this grant program, including [regional tribal grant coordinators](#), can be found [here](#).

Thank you,

Leslie Temple

Protection Branch
Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-4734

From: Davis, CatherineM

Sent: Monday, July 8, 2019 9:27 AM

To: Downing, Jane <Downing.Jane@epa.gov>; Springborg, Denise <Springborg.Denise@epa.gov>; Spinale, Mark <Spinale.Mark@epa.gov>; Pabst, Douglas <Pabst.Douglas@epa.gov>; Ash, Christine <Ash.Christine@epa.gov>; Vida, Stephen <Vida.Stephen@epa.gov>; McGuigan, David <McGuigan.David@epa.gov>; Crumlish, Karen <Crumlish.Karen@epa.gov>; Reynolds, Lori <Reynolds.Lori@epa.gov>; Pratt, Stacie <Pratt.Stacie@epa.gov>; Smith, Brian <Smith.Brian@epa.gov>; Campbell-Dunbar, Shawneille <Campbell-Dunbar.Shawneille@epa.gov>; Thomas, Chris <Thomas.Chris@epa.gov>; Purify, Johnnie <Purify.Johnnie@epa.gov>; Pierard, Kevin <pierard.kevin@epa.gov>; Bair, Rita <bair.rita@epa.gov>; Shoven, Heather <shoven.heather@epa.gov>; Baltazar, Debbie <baltazar.debbie@epa.gov>; Marquardt, Steve <marquardt.steve@epa.gov>; Brown, Jamesr <brown.jamesr@epa.gov>; Ngo, Kim <Ngo.Kim@epa.gov>; Hosch, Claudia <hosch.claudia@epa.gov>; Hamilton, Denise <Hamilton.Denise@epa.gov>; Mindrup, Mary <Mindrup.Mary@epa.gov>; Deason, Ken <Deason.Ken@epa.gov>; Curtis, Glenn <curtis.glenn@epa.gov>; Bahrman, Sarah <Bahrman.Sarah@epa.gov>; Kahn, Lisa <Kahn.Lisa@epa.gov>; Diaz, Angelique <Diaz.Angelique@epa.gov>; Russo, Rebecca <Russo.Rebecca@epa.gov>; Li, Corine <Li.Corine@epa.gov>; Eberhardt, Doug <Eberhardt.Doug@epa.gov>; Lidgard, Michael <Lidgard.Michael@epa.gov>; Roberto, Joseph <Roberto.Joseph@epa.gov>; Green, Richard <Green.Richard@epa.gov>
Cc: Thompkins, Anita <Thompkins.Anita@epa.gov>; Bergman, Ronald <Bergman.Ronald@epa.gov>; Lopez-Carbo, Maria <Lopez-Carbo.Maria@epa.gov>; Gonzalez, Yvonne V. <Gonzalez.Yvonne@epa.gov>; Temple, Leslie <temple.leslie@epa.gov>; Edwards, Alyssa <edwards.alyssa@epa.gov>

Subject: Regional Allotments for Tribal WIIN Grant to Assist Small and Disadvantaged Communities

Hi Regional PWSS and DWSRF Branch Chiefs,

Please see the attached memo with the regional allotments for the tribal portion of the grant to assist small and disadvantaged communities, authorized under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act. We are drafting an implementation document to support this work, and we anticipate having that available later this summer.

I hope everyone had a safe and happy 4th of July weekend!

Regards,
Cathy Davis
Associate Manager, Protection Branch
Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water
Office: (202) 564-2703
Mobile: (202) 573-1704
Email: Davis.CatherineM@epa.gov

Send mail to:
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
MC: 4606M
Washington, DC 20460